

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 RSC-01

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INT-05 /107 W

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FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 550

INFO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 2020

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GY, LI

SUBJECT: LIBERIAN PRESIDENT VISITS GUYANA

SUMMARY: LIBERIAN PRESIDENT WILLIAM TOLBERT AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THIRTY SIX MAN DELEGATION MADE STATE VISIT TO GUYANA NOVEMBER 8-12. TOLBERT HELD TALKS WITH GUYANA PRIME MINISTER AND TOURED CAPITAL GEORGETOWN, SUGAR ESTATE, RICE DEVELOPMENT SCHEME AND NATIONAL SERVICE CAMP AT KIMBIA. HIGHLIGHT OF VISIT WAS ADDRESS BY TOLBERT TO NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON THEME OF INTRDEPENDENCE. DURING VISIT, GUYANA AND LIBERIA AGREED TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AND EXPLORE TRADE LINKS. END SUMMARY.

1. ON NOVEMBER 8, LIBERIAN PRESIDENT WILLIAM TOLBERT AND OTHER MEMBERS OF HIS THIRTY SIX MAN DELEGATION, INCLUDING FOREIGN MINISTER CECIL DENNIS, ARRIVED IN GUYANA FOR FIVE DAY VISIT. TOLBERT WAS GREETED AT AIRPORT BY PRIME MINISTER FORBES BURNHAM, CABINET, DIPLOMATIC CORPS, AND MILITARY HONOR GUARD. ENTIRE ENTOURAGE THEN PROCEEDED ON TWENTY-SEVEN MILE DRIVE TO GEORGETOWN WITH SCHOOL CHILDREN LINING ROUTE. TOLBERT WAS PRESENTED WITH KEY TO CITY, ANDIN REPLY SAID HE WAS BRINGING MESSAGE OF FRIENDSHIP AND LOVE TO GUYANA. FRIDAY EVENING TOLBERT ATTENDED STATE DINNER GIVEN IN HIS HONOR BY GUYANA PRESIDENT ARTHUR CHUNG.

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2. NOVEMBER 9, TOLBERT TOURED LA BONNE INTENTION SUGAR ESTATE ESCORTED BY TREFOR ELLIS, CHAIRMAN OF BOOKERS SUGAR ESTATES. LATER, HE VISITED MAICHONY-ABARY RICE DEVELOPMENT SCHEME AT BURMA, ATER WHICH HE PRAISED GUYANA FOR STRIVING FOR SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN FOOD PRODUCTION. SATURDAY EVENING, TOLBERT ATTENDED LARGE RECEPTION AT RESIDENCE OF PM BURNHAM AND CROWNING OF QUEEN AT LOCAL BEAUTY CONTEST.

3. ON NOVEMBER 10, LIBERIAN PRESIDENT PARTICIPATED IN WREATH LAYING CEREMONY AT MEMORIAL FOR GUYANESE KILLED IN WORLD WARS, AND SUBSEQUENTLY FLEW TO GUYANA NATIONAL SERVICE CAMP AT KIMBIA ON BERBICE RIVER. TOLBERT REPORTEDLY PRAISED GUYANA'S NATIONAL SERVICE, A PARAMILITARY WORKS PROGRAM, AS NECESSRY FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. SUNDAY NIGHT TOLBERT DELIVERED SERMON AT LOCAL BAPTIST CHURCH.

4. MONDAY TOLBERT LAID WREATH AT MONUMENT TO NON-ALIGNMENT LEADERS, ATTENDED GATHERING OF GEORGETOWN SCHOOL CHILDREN, ADDRESSED GUYANA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, VISITED HOUSING DEVELOPMENT, AND HELD TALKS WITH PM BURNHAM. IN HIS ADDRESS TO NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (TEXT POUCHED), TOLBERT STRESSED THEME OF GLOBAL INTERDEPENDENCE. NO NATION, HE ARGUED, COULD LONG PROSPER IN ISOLATION, AND STRIVING FOR TOTAL SELF-SUFFICIENCY BREEDS COLONIALISM, EXPLOITATION, AND EXPANSIONISM. INSTEAD, PROBLEMS OF FOOD, ENERGY, AND RAW MATERIALS CAN ONLY BE RESOLVED BY COOPERATIVE GLOBAL ACTION. SUCH ACTION REQUIRES COURAGE, RESOLUTENESS, AND QUOTE SENSITIVITY TO SPECIAL FEARS OF TTHERS INCLUDING THOSE WHO HAVE FOR SO LONG DISPROPORTIONATELY ENJOYED THE LARGEST SHARE OF THE BOUNTIES OF THE WORLD UNQUOTE. CONTINUING, TOLBERT QUESTIONED IDEA THAT THERE HAS BEEN MOVEMENT TOWARDS MORE EQUITABLE ECONOMIC ORDER. HE WARNED THIS ORDER COULD NOT BE BASED SOLELY ON INCREASED RAW MATERIALS PRICES SINCE HIGHER PRICES AFFECTED DEVELOPING AND DEVELOPED NATIONS. WHAT IS REQUIRED, TOLBERT CONCLUDED, IS QUOTE THE DIFFUSION ON EQUITABLE TERMS OF CAPITAL AND TECHNOLOGY AND A GENEROUS DEGREE OF ASSISTANCE BY THE ENTIRE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO THE MOST NEEDY. UNQUOTE

5. ON NOVEMBER 12, DAY OF TOLBERT'S DEPARTURE, IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT LIBERIA AND GUYANA HAD AGREED TO ESTABLISH FORMAL DIPLOMATIC UNCLASSIFIED

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RELATIONS. AT PRESS CONFERENCE, TOLBERT SAID RESIDENT LIBERIAN AMBASSADOR WOULD BE APPOINTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. TOLBERT ALSO TOLD REPORTERS THAT GUYANA AND LIBERIA WOULD SEEK TO BUILD TRADE LINKS WITH LIBERIAN RUBBER AND GUYANESE SUGAR AS TWO POSSIBLE ITEMS OF EXCHANGE AND THAT ARRANGEMENTS WERE BEING MADE FOR PROGRAM OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION.

6. AT CONCLUSIONOF TOLBERT VISIT, GUYANA MINISTRY OF FOREIGN

AFFAIRS ISSUED PRESS RELEASE SUMMARIZING VISIT AND NOTING SOME AREAS OF DISCUSSION BETWEEN TOLBERT AND BURNHAM (TEXT POUCHED). CURIOUSLY, ALTHOUGH LIBERIAN FOREIGN MINISTER DENNIS READ DOCUMENT TO REPORTERS, LIBERIANS ASKED THAT IT BE CALLED PRESS RELEASE RATHER THAN JOINT COMMUNIQUE. ACCORDING TO RELEASE, TWO LEADERS DISCUSSED PROBLEM OF SOUTH AFRICA AND RHODESIA, EXPRESSED NEED TO REFORM UN SECURITY COUNCIL TO REFLECT QUOTE POLITICAL REALITIES UNQUOTE, DEPLORED FAILURE OF SUPER-POWER DETENTE TO END QUOTE PRESSURES AND SUBVERSION UNQUOTE AGAINST SMALLER STATES, EMPHASIZED NEED TO PURSUE PROPOSALS OF UNGA SPECIAL SESSION, IDENTIFIED SOVEREIGNTY OVER NATURAL RESOURCES AS QUOTE PILLAR UNQUOTE OF NEW ECONOMIC ORDER, AND REVIEWED VARIOUS NON-ALIGNED ACTIVITIES.

6. TOLBERT DEPARTED GUYANA MORNING OF NOVEMBER 12 TO RETURN TO LIBERIA. THROUGHOUT HIS VISIT, LIBERIAN PRESIDENT WAS WELL RECEIVED BY GENERAL PUBLIC AND OFFICIALS DESPITE CERTAIN WEARINESS WITH FOREIGN VISITORS AFTER RECENT VISIT OF TANZANIAN PRESIDENT NYERERE AND MEETING OF INTERNATIONAL BAUXITE ASSOCIATION. MATTHEWS

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**TAGS:** PFOR, OVIP, GY, LI, (TOLBERT, WILLIAM)  
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